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5. — *The School for Politics. A Dramatic Novel.* By CHARLES GAYARRÉ. New York: Appleton & Co. 1854. 24mo. pp. 158.

MR. GAYARRÉ has already made himself favorably known in literature by his "History of Louisiana," a work which displayed not only fidelity and enthusiasm, but liberal and elegant culture. Whether, since the time of that publication, he has been worsted in some political adventure by a worse man and by foul means, we are unable to say. If this be so, he has avenged himself most gracefully in the book before us. If not, he has entered into a gratuitous championship of political integrity against reigning agencies and systematized modes of corruption. The object of this drama is to illustrate the various ways in which votes are bargained for, opinion manufactured, interest played off against interest, and even friendship and love put up at auction, on the eve of an important election. The picture is hardly overdrawn, though a foreigner might take it for a caricature. Its execution is worthy of the author's reputation; and a very well devised love-plot running through it will make it readable by those who cannot apprehend its political bearing, and have no need of its rebuke.

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6. — *History of Newburyport, from the Earliest Settlement of the Country to the Present Time. With a Biographical Appendix.* By MRS. E. VALE SMITH. Newburyport. 1854. pp. 414.

THE history of one of our little municipalities hardly furnishes sufficient scope for a person of genius, and may perhaps be most successfully executed by one whose mental retina can be subtended by the boundary lines of his native town. The main defect of this book is that it lacks the air that would have been given to it by an author who could conceive of no nobler work. In the biographical sketches, and in other portions of the narrative that possessed intrinsic claims upon her interest, Mrs. Smith has done full justice to her taste and vigor as a writer; but she has been at no pains to dress up insignificant details, or to relieve the dryness of the annals for uneventful periods. Yet even in these parts of her work she has evidently employed all due industry and fidelity, and has omitted no materials of history that could on any account be worth preserving.